

State of New Mexico ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

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Septic Tank Reuse Guidance

- Reuse implies that the septic tank will be exhumed and re-installed at a new location, which
 may be onsite or offsite
- All septic tanks proposed for reuse shall pass a water tightness test after installation at the new location. This means that all sides are exposed for inspection as with new tanks. The exception is polymer tanks that require backfilling during filling with water.
- All septic tanks proposed for reuse shall be structurally sound after installation at the new location.
- Septic tanks proposed for reuse may be clean uncontaminated tanks, or may have been actively used in a liquid waste system.
- All septic tanks proposed for reuse shall be considered on a case-by-case basis. The local Environmentalist has full authority to make this decision. The local Environmentalist may seek the advise of the Liquid Waste Specialist.
- The septic tank proposed for reuse shall meet current construction standards, and shall be on the list of approved tanks.
- The septic tank proposed for reinstallation shall meet all current installation requirements.
- The internal condition of the septic tank shall be checked, including baffles, overflows, etc.
- The capacity of the septic tank shall be verified.
- An effluent filter shall be added to the tank, including provision of access to the filter.

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